HOUSES.

English and American Contensed, Without Buch Fintlery to the Former. From an exceedingly readable article in Tinsley's Magazine we make the following selections:-

A MODEL AMERICAN HOUSE,

There is an excellent chance for some speculative showman—some British Barnum—to realize a moderate fortune by importing to this country, erecting and exhibiting, an American house. I do not mean a specimen of the log cabins in which a large proportion of my countrymen are supposed to reside, nor a model of the modest White House, at Washington, which is made to serve as a paor substitute for a Presidential palace; but I mean an average American house, such as those which are erected in all the cities of the United States for the residences of the middle-class population. Compared with a dwelling of this kind, the middle-class houses in England seem destitute equally of comfort and convenience, although those who have never been accustomed to anything different or better consider them quite comfortable and convenient enough for all practical purposes. But then different p-ople have different minds. An Englishman absolutely believes that he can warm a room by building a grate fire at one end of it. An American visiting this country is in a continual shiver, his face being soorched and his back cold, or vice versa, until he becomes thoroughly acclimated, and learns that the most healthy warmth is that which exercise in the open air imparts to the blood.

A MODEL ENGLISH FIRE.

The parade, labor, skill, and paraphernalia required to maintain and manage an English fire are bewildering to a foreigner. There are the grate, and the ornamented fender, and the rug before the hearth; the steel shovel, tongs, and poker that are kept for beauty, not for use; and the steel poker, tongs, and shovel that are to be used. Need I say that the foreigner always undertakes to employ the wrong poker, and is detested accordingly! Then there is the handsome coal-box that stands by the fireside, and the ugly coal-souttle which the maid carries in and out to replenish the former. Matches, waste-paper, bundles of kindling-wood ad libitum, and the first issue thereof is smoke. Presently there comes flame, and then, after many hours of manipulation, heat is generated. Not much heat, but still enough to make one wish for more. Meanwhile, the fire consumes the coals with a flendish disregard of their price per sack. By way of revenge, I presume, everybody who enters the room gives the fire a savage poke. But, like "Stephano's" fish in the Tempest, it is a most delicate monster. Let but a foreign hand touch the poker, and the fire grows sul-len and dies out. Every man thinks he can dress a salad; every man thinks he can poke a fire; these are the two least venial of human errors. When the fire dies, either naturally, or by some unskilful touch, it strews the whole fender with its Then one of the maid-servants produces a boxful of black lead and brushes, takes away the ashes and sifts them, and, by dint of much hard work, polishes the grate again. There is no other institution in England so troublesome, vexations, unsatisfactory, and ungrateful, as an English fire; but the people love it, and praise it, and shiver round it, as if it were a fire from heaven, like that which lit the altars of the gods.

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN SERVANTS.

It is evident that the origin of the numerous labor-saving contrivauces in America is the lack of good servants; but in London the inhabitants have been complaining for years of the lack of good servants, and are yet very slow to introduce servant-saving machines. Americans, who know what the horrors of servantdom really are, cannot but regard these complaints as ill-founded. Everywhere in England, not excepting London, the servants seem astonishingly docile, civil, willing, and well trained. The worst London maid-of-all-work who ever transformed a lodging-house into a purgatory shines like an augel by contrast with her Irish sister in New York. The most stupid, drunken, negligent coachman in England is a perfect master of his business by contrast with his brother, the independent adopted fellow citizen who murders your horses in the United States. Perthe best servants we have haps had in America during the past twenty years were the black slaves in the South; but they were exceedingly lazy, wasteful, and expensive, so that I have often heard a Southern planter declare that he was the real slave forced to work for his negroes. But thirty or forty years ago there was a set of servants, mostly blacks, attached to Kulcker-booker families in New York and New Jersey, who were as near perfection as men and women can become. Those were the days of Dutch kitchens, Dutch dishes, Dutch neat-ness, and Dutch housewifery, now long past and never to return. With them faded away the old faithful race of servants, who honored and respected their employers, and were honored and respected by all. Occasionally one happens upon a descendant of this race, with all the virtues of the good old stock; but the accident is very rare. I remember one of them now-a negress named Diana -with whose culinary art no French cook could compete, and with whose merits as a woman few whiter women could compare. She lived only to show us what treasures we had lost. But the English servants, at their best, are precisely like these Knickerbocker marvels. At their worst, they are so much better than the present race of servants in America, that any American who values his comfort more than his democracy would do well to exchange countries for this reason alone. Nevertheless, we are right to flatter ourselves that we have no good servants because of our democracy. It is not pleasant to think of thousands of young men and women who grow up as servants in private houses, with no ambition beyond exchanging their domestic servitude for the public servitude of a little landlordship and landladyship in a minor tavern. In America a coachman may win his way into Congress, and a servant may marry a future President. If we must have either discomfort or feudalism, let us choose discomfort. But sometimes when I watch the English servants at their work it occurs to me that, as there is nothing degrading in household service, and as Americans pay very dearly for it, surely it ought to be more henestly and ably performed even by embryo Congressmen and the possible wives of Presidents. If any remaining Pogram object to this sentiment as unrepublican, I'll make it stronger by suggesting that we should have in America stricter laws to compel our future rulers to give us fairer

THE MODEL IRISH SERVANTS. One pregnant advantage that the English have is, that their servants are their own countryfolk. A native-born American servant is almost an impossibility. In old times we used to find them in some of the Eastern States, but they were chiefly farmers' daughters sent out as "helps" to neighbors, in order that they might learn housekeeping, and so fit themselves for becoming industrious wives. This is the reason why they were called | men who have visited the United States

work for our fair wages.

"helps," and not servants; for being of the same social rank as their employers, there was nothing servile in their occupations.
Naturally the same term came in time to be applied to all servants; but it is now very seldom used. The servants in America, then, are all foreigners—Irish in the East, Germans in the West. English and Scotch are more scarce, and are always sure of commanding better places and higher wages. Germans are preferred to the Irish, because they know more about domestic duties and are generally neater in appearance. They have, however, proponsities for lager beer, lovers, and waltzing at late balls, which test the temper of the most patient mistress very severely. The Irish go from the emigrant ships to the "intelligence offices," or servants' agencies; and often they have piaces—that is to say, are hired—the next day after they leave ship-board. Poor girls! The wonder is, not that they know so little, but that they learn so quickly. Coming from homes destitute of every comfort-from straw-thatched cabins, where the only housekeeping consists in piling peat upon the fire-from hovels where all the meals are cooked in the same pot, and gaunt Poverty casts its curse upon the scanty fare -they are transferred in a moment from the horrors of the steerage to what seem to them palaces, and are transformed in a twickling from emigrants to "enlinary artistes," or "first-class general servants." They have never had any money before, but they are too shrewd to squander their large wages. With a generosity to which one cannot do too ample justice, their first thoughts are for their poor relatives in Ireland; their first savings are sent to bring these wretched sufferers to the promised land.

These Irish servant girls, whose devotion to their religion shames many a Christian in higher stations, subscribe immense sums of money for the Roman Catholic Church, for the support of priests and for charity. They have always a trille left, too, for Fenianism or any other "ism" that assumes the garb of the champion of old Ireland. Thinking of all their devotion and their patriotism and their sacrifices, their faults appear trivial; but they have most vexatious faults. They soon learn their independence; their self-respect takes the form of unbridled insolence; they are, almost without exception, virtuous while in service, but they are very fond of drink; they assume unservantlike finery, despise those caps which English maids wear so jauntily, make frequent drafts upon mistresses' wardrobes. are always coming to see them; sins and as every Irishman is their cousin, a thief or burglar often turns up in a well-regulated household. Finnerals are their delight; and as some Irish friend is always dying, and as they are invited to every wake, a considerable portion of their time is devoted to the dead rather than to the living. They domineer over the real mistress of the house, order her out of the kitchen, and give her the full benefit of a temper spoiled by early brutality. They reserve all their affection for their own country-people, and never have the slightest attachment to the families with whom they live. Regarded philosophically, they are excellent patriots; but regarded practically, they are very bad servants, in every way inferior to those of England and Europe.

But there is such a calamity as TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING.

The English have too many servants. The labor is divided into very small portions, and there must be a man or a maid for each portion. Butler, housekeeper, cook, housemaid, parlor-maid, nurse, nurse-maid, laundry-maid, lady's-maid, footman, valet, scullery-maid, and page, or "buttons," they muster in a diversified but formidable array, and each one is pledged by some secret bond of the fraternity never to do anything that is assigned by custom to the departments of his condiutors. At least three or four servants must be attached to a moderate household in

In the country I have known fifteen servants engaged to wait upon a family of four persons. I do not speak of noblemen's .families, for these maintain an immense retinue of dependants and underlings, but of a quiet country-house, with no game-preserves to look after, and no stud of hunters to require extra stablemen. Euglish ladies are, as a rule, better housewives than American women, and they have need to be so. To manage so many employés satisfactorily demands talents. labor, and experience enough to fit a man for the rank of drill-sergeant, or even that of general. In many English houses the servants form a househeld within a household. They must have a separate table, not furnished forth with the funereal baked meats from their masters' feasts, but with everything cooked especially. Even in the plainest houses there is a fixed extra allowance for the servants' beer. In great houses the upper servants have a third table in the housekeeper's room. All this draws heavily upon the income of the head of the family. Wages are not very dear, but not much cheaper than in America. Perquisites are about the same in both countries. Vails, or gifts from visitors to servants, are not thought of in Ameries; but in many parts of England the custom is continued in all its ancient force. During the dull season last summer, there was a determined attack upon it in the newspapers, but very little effect was produced. Gentlemen furnished statistics to show that it would have cost them less to buy their own shooting-grounds than to accept invitations from friends and pay pounds to the gamekeepers. Other gentlemen ciphered up the amount of money of which they had been mulcted by the understrappers at houses which they had honored with visits. The journals, in long, logical, and learned leaders, protested against such impositions upon guests. But when the servants, aggravated beyond endurance, at last rushed into print, and, with homely pathos but bad grammar, recorded how much extra work the visitors made for them, almost everybody felt that the servants had the best of the discussion. At any rate, to tip English servants is the custom, and Americans should not venture upon an exception. It is impossible to offend any Roglishman of what called here "the lower orders" by offering him a shilling. From the policeman who points out your way to the page who ushers you into a drawing-room, they all have itching palms. In any other country you can ask question of a street loafer without being solicited for "the price of a pint of beer;" but not in this. Nowhere else is poverty so very hard and so utterly shameless. Even in Spain and Italy the beggars are too proud to ask for

alms if you address them politnly. AMERICAN AND ENGLISH BILLS OF FARE.

When all has been conceded, the fact remains that the Americans have by far the best, most varied, and most extensive bill of fare. I am aware that this is, in a great measure, a matter of individual opinion, and therefore in all I have said of English dishes I have endeavored to condense the results of a long series of references to other Americans who have visited England. It is sufficient for me to indorse the verdict of this national jury. I am afraid, however, that the verdict of a jury of English-

might be very much on the other side. Until recently I supposed that it was admitted that American fruits were much more juley and Inscious than the English, with, perhaps, the single exception of the plums. But the other day a party of Englishmen, all of whom had been twice to the United States, gravely asserted the contrary, and were surprised at my extraordinary lack of discrimination when I could not agree with them. Their English fruit must have ripened upon the suuniest walls-may it ever be so!-and their American fruit must have been ea en before it was matured. This incident has completely shaken my faith in anybody's judgment on the tables of the two countries, and I only submit these paragraphs as a humble contribution of information on this most important subject, which some great goarmet will, one day, discress and decide authoritatively. Still it is in order for me to protest vigorously against that spectral cauvas-back duck which hannts an American at English dinners as the albatross haunted the Ancient Mariner. The canvas-back duck is not a fair specimen of American wild fowl. Some people pretend to like it because it has the flavor of the wild celery upon which it feeds; but to develop this flavor the bird has to be cooked quickly before a flaming fire, and eaten almost raw. This dook is very expensive in America, and is conse quently valued very highly by epi-cures; but the majority of Ameri-cans would as soon think of feasting upon uncooked crows. The wild game of the United States is of a very different character. It may be pretty fairly judged, all things considered, by the prairie-fowl which are sent over to the London markets; but only the breast of this fowl should be eaten. A wild turkey is the best of game. Few travellers will deny that Delmonico's restaurant, at New York, is to be ranked far above the best restaurants of Paris. There we have the perfection of French cooking applied to a larder more abun-dant and more diversified than any in Europe. But when you go from this restaurant into private families, the same superiority in the materials and in the cursine is observable. and the lower you descend in the social scale the better are the dinners by contrast with those of similar classes here. There are tens of thousands of poor families in Eugland who can afford meat but once a week, if at all; but no corresponding class can be found in America. An ordinary laborer lives as well there as a small shopkeeper does in Great Britain After all, that is a superiority more grand than any which can be established for excellence in particular dishes.

CITY ORDINANCES. A FURTHER SUPPLEMENT
To an ordinance approved June 25, 1856,
entitled "An Ordinance relating to the supervision of the Girard Estate and management vision of the Girard Estate and management of the Girard College for Orphans."

Section I, The Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia do ordain, That the agent of the Girard estates in Schuylkill, Columbia, and adjoining counties, who shall hereafter be known as the Engineer of the Girard Estates in Schuylkill and Columbia counties, shall sppoint, subject to the approval of the Superintendent of the Girard Estates and of the Select Council of the city of Philadelphia, a suitable person, to be knownias the Assistant Superintendent of the Girard Estates in Schuylkill and Columbia counties, who shall be in all matters under the direction of the be in all matters under the direction of the Engineer, and shall assist him in his surveys, etc. He shall reside on the estate; he shall visit daily some portion of the estate, and each colliery and tract of land at least monthly. He shall devote his whole time and ability to the interests of the estate, and make a detailed report in writing on the first day of each month, and oftener if required, to the Committee on Girard Estates, through the Engineer, of all his transactions the preceding month.

Section 2. That from and after the first day of January, 1869, the following shall be the salarnes to be paid the officers of the Girard estates:—

1. To the Superintendent twenty five hundred be in all matters under the direction of the 1. To the Superintendent twenty five hundred

dollars per annum.

2. To the Agent two thousand dollars.

3. To the Engineer two thousand dollars. 4. To the Assistant Superintendent fifteen hundred dollars, and in addition thereto the use of the old stone house at Girardville free of

To the Attorney one thousand dollars, 6. To the Messenger (who shall also be the clerk of the Superintendent) one thousand

JOSEPH F. MARCER, President of Common Council.

Assistant Clerk of Select Council.

WILLIAM S. STOKLEY,
President of Select Council.

Approved this twenty-seventa day of January, Auno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty nine (A. D. 1869).

DANIEL M. FOX, Mayor of Philadelphia,

D. E. S. O. L. U. T. I. O. N.

To Authorize the Tramwaying of Silver Street, Ninth Ward.

Resolved, By the Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia. That the Chief Commissioner of Highways be and he is hereby authorized and directed to repave Silver street, from Thirteenth to Juniper street, in the Ninth Ward, said repaving to be done with tramway stone in the tracks of the wheels; and if the cartway is wider than necessary for a single track, he is authorized to sary for a single track, he is authorized to reduce it to the proper width by taking an equal quantity from each side. JOSEPH F. MARCER, President of Common Council

BENJAMIN H. HAINES,
Clerk of Select Council,
WILLIAM S. STOKLEY,
President of Select Council, Approved this twenty seventh day of January, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine (A. D. 1869). DANIEL M. FOX.

Mayor of Philadelphia. 1 29 1t Resolved, By the Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia, That the City Controller is hereby directed to countersign warrant No. 4379, drawn by the Department of Highways to the order of Charles Welss, dated December 2, 1868, for one hundred and fifty-nine gollars and pinety-six cents.

dollars and ninety-six cents.

JOSEPH F. MARCER, President of Common Council.

Hobket Bethell,
Assistant Clerk of Select Council.
WILLIAM 8. STOKLEY,
President of Select Council. Approved this twenty seventh day of January, Anno Domini one (bousand eight hundred and

sixty-nine (A. D. 1869). DANIEL M. FOX, Mayor of Pulladelpula.

A N ORDINANUE
Out of the Income of the Girard Estates.
Section 1 The Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia do ordain, Toat the additions sum of thirty-two hundred dol-lars be and the same is hereby appropriated to Item 3, salaries for the year 1869, of ordinance approved December 29 1868.

JOSEPH F. MARCER,

President of Common Council,

BENJAMIN H. HAINES, Clerk of Select Council.

WILLIAM S. STOKLEY,
President of Select Council.

Approved this twenty seventh day of January,
tuno Domini one thousand eight hundred
and sixty-nine (A. D. 1889).

and sixty-nine (A, D. 1869).

DANIEL M. FOX,

1 29 1t | IMayor of Philadelphia.

PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL.—
PHILADELPHIA, December 29, 1868.
The attending Managers are:—
Wistar Morris, No. 226 S Third street.
S. Morris Wailo, No. 128 S. Delaware avenue.
Attending Physician—J. M. Da Costa, M. D., No. 1865 Spruce street.
Attending Sargeons—William Hunt, M. D., No. 1800
Spince street.
Thomas George Morton, M. D., No. 1421 Chesnut street. Thomas deorge mortos, a. b., the Hospital every day (Sundays excepted) to receive applications for admission.

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libto the cellar among a quantity of compusable materials. We opened it next day and found our sooks,
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contents all safe. It is especially gratifying to us tant
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